Perry Franklin, unit manager at Marion Correctional Institution in the N.C Department of Correction.

Under the leadership of Perry Franklin of Marion, the Community Work Program, which provides inmate labor for state or county agencies located near correctional facilities, has become a widely recognized success. Inmate work squads are known for providing quality labor and craftsmanship, such as building picnic shelters and tables. There is a three-month wait for their services, which have saved the state millions of dollars.

Through the Wheels of Love program, inmates repair discarded bicycles and donate them to needy children. Perry also started the LEASH program, which teaches inmates to train dogs from the animal shelter that are later returned for adoption. Thanks to Perry's efforts, adoption rates have soared, inmates have increased self-esteem and LEASH has become a statewide correctional program.

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